

**C. AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please amend the abstract by replacing the paragraph on lines 11 through 17 with:

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"The present invention [provides] is a device[, compositions and methods] for reducing the volatility of radioactive waste. The device includes [comprising;] a receptacle having an open end [said open end having] with a means for affixing a lid securely to [said] the receptacle, [a] an absorbent matrix [comprising] that is composed of a humectant, a pH-stabilizing agent and an adsorbent material [said matrix insertable into said] the receptacle able to receive the matrix and a lid for sealing the receptacle. Radioactive waste is deposited into the receptacle during use and the receptacle is sealed and disposed of safely."